Special Forestry Programme in Orissa

1672. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Social Forestry Programme is being implemented in Orissa;

(b) if so, what is the number of districts in that State which have been brought under this programme so far; and

(c) what specific work had been taken up under the said programme in Phulbani, a tribal district of the state till the 31st December, 1989?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS AND WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The Social Forestry Programme is being implemented in all the districts of Orissa including Phulbani.

(c) Under the Social Forestry Programme, which includes an Externally-aided Project being implemented with assistance of Swedish International Development Agency, a number of activities like raising nurseries, development of villages woodlots, rehabilitation of village forest, forest farming for rural poor, agro-forestry on private lands, etc. are being implemented in Phulbani District.

Construction of a tunnel between Chowkibal and Tangdhar in J. & K

1673. SHRI SHABBIR AHMAD SALARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the load between Chowkibal and Tangdhar in Distt. Kupwara, Jammu and Kashmir, remains cut off for the major part of the year due to heavy snow;

(b) whether it is also a fact that with the construction of a tunnel at Drangyary in the said area, would greatly help to its 40,000 inhabitants from remaining cut off from the rest of this State; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to construct the tunnel in the said area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) Yes, Sir. The road remains closed from December to May due to snow accumulation at Nastachun Pass.

(b) and (c) Construction of a tunnel at Drangyary is not proposed as there is no operational requirement therefor.

Adarsh Pathsala in Himachal Pradesh

1674. SHRI ASHIS SEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have sanctioned two Adarsh Pathsalas in Himachal Pradesh to be run with the assistance of the Central Government;

(b) if so, on which date the Ministry of Finance had sanctioned funds to these Pathsalas;

(c) the total number of staff sanctioned by the Screening Committee to the Adarsh Pathsala, Jangla, Categorywise their names, age, Educational qualifications, experience and scale of pay; and

(d) what are the details of the procedure for recruitment in the Adarsh Pathsalas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) to (d) Government have decided to recognise two Mahavidyalayas in Himachal Pradesh as Adarsh Pathsalas. These institutions are:—

(i) Himachal Saraswati Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Jangla.

(ii) S. D. Snakator Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Doghi.

The formalities that are to be followed, according to prescribed rules, for recognition of Sanskrit Institutions as Adarsh Pathsalas are: –

— receipt of applications through the State Governments.

— scrutiny of the same.

— inspection by an Expert Committee.

— consideration and acceptance by the Government of the recommendations of the Committee.

— [illegible] for recognition.

— transfer of properties and assets in the name of the President of India; and remittance of an amount of Rs. 1.00 lakh as deposit by the institution.

— screening of staff.

— constitution of Managing Committee, and

— issue of orders for recognition and financial assistance based on such recognition.

In the case of Himachal Saraswati Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Jangla, all the above formalities upto that of constitution of Managing Committee have been completed. Pending constitution of the Managing Committee, formal orders for recognition, and release of financial assistance based on such recognition, have not been issued.

So far as S. D. Snakator Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Doghi, is concerned, formalities for transfer of assets in the name of the President of India have not been completed by the institution. Therefore, in the case of this institution also, it has not been possible to issue orders for recognition as Adarsh Pathsala and for release of financial assistance thereafter.

The Screening Committee does not sanction staff.

Pending issue of formal orders for recognition of the Institutions, the question of determination of staff strength for various categories or granting approvals for selection/appointment of individual functionaries categorywise and prescribing recruitment procedures does not arise.

Health hazards from desktop computers

1675. SHRI YELLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the desktop computers are health hazards to humans;

(b) whether it is also a fact that World Health Organisation has recommended that the computer terminals be spaced at least one metre apart-in all directions; and

(c) whether this recommendations is being implemented in view of the fact that the radiation from a computer terminal attenuates quickly over a distance of a few feet?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) No conclusive evidence has come to the notice of the Government to suggest that the use of Desktop computers constitutes health hazards to human beings.

(b) In the Report, "Visual Display Terminal and Workers Health" published by World Health Organisation in 1987, there is no specific recommendation that the computer terminals be spaced at least one metre apart-in all directions.

(c) Does not arise.

Rate of overtime allowance to Government employees

1676. SHRI N. RAJANGAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CPWD and other Government organisations are